GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:736
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
WEATHER WARNING CENTRE
HEMA GAMANG

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) weather the Government propose to provide weather warning centre near Konark in Orissa;

(b) if so, the final decision taken by the Government to this effect ; (

(c) whether keeping in view the frequent national calamities in east coast area of the country, it is not desirable to have national level project of weather warning centre as proposed by his ministry at Konark before the occurrence of supercyclone in 1999; and

(d) if so, the present position in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) No, Sir. A Cyclone Warning Centre of the India Meteorological Department is alreadyfunctioning at Bhubaneswar and caters to the weather warning requirements of entire Orissa state.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise,

(c) A full fledged national cyclone warning system has already been established by the India Meteorological Department. This consists of three Area Cyclone Warning Centres at Chennai,Kolkata and Mumbai and three Cyclone Warning Centres atBhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam and Ahmedabad. These centres provide a proven and reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users. The cyclones are monitored for their development and movement right from their incipient stage with the help of INSAT imagery. IMD also has a chain of high power coastal radars, 10 in number, along the east and west coast each having a range of 400 Km to monitor cyclones, when they are nearer the coast. As a result, India`s present capability is such that no cyclone approaching the Indian coast can escape detection. IMD`s forecasts in respect of Orissa Super Cyclonic Storm of 29 October 1999 were very accurate and given well in advance.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.